

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.

VOL. I.

JAN. FEB. & MAR. 1839.

No. 6.

Stated Meeting, January 4.

Present, fifteen members.

Dr. PATTERSON, Vice President, in the chair.

The result of the annual election for officers, held this day, was reported as follows:—

President.

Peter S. Du Ponceau, LL. D.

Vice Presidents.

Nathaniel Chapman, M. D.,
Joseph Hopkinson, LL. D.,
Robert M. Patterson, M. D.

Secretaries.

Franklin Bache, M. D.,
John K. Kane,
Alexander D. Bache, LL. D.,
J. Francis Fisher.

Counsellors for Three Years.

William Short,
William H. Keating,
George Ord,
C. C. Biddle.

Curators.

J. P. Wetherill,
Isaac Hays, M. D.,
Franklin Peale.

Treasurer.

John Vaughan.

The following donations were received:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

On the Functions of the Cerebellum, by Drs. Gall, Vimont, and Broussais. Translated from the French, by George Combe: also answers to the objections urged against Phrenology by Drs. Roget, Rudolphi, Prichard, and Tiedemann. By George Combe and Dr. A. Combe. Edinburgh, 1838.—*From Mr. George Combe.*
 Magazine of Natural History. Edited by Edward Charlesworth. Vol. II. New Series. Nos. 22, 23, & 24. London, 1838.—*From the Editor.*

The American Medical Library and Intelligencer. By Robley Dunglison, M. D. Vol. II. Nos. 19, 20, & 21. Philadelphia, 1839.—*From the Editor.*

Railway Map of England and Wales. London, 1838.—*From Mr. William Vaughan.*

Chart of George's Shoal and Bank. Surveyed by Charles Wilkes, Lieut. Commandant, and the officers of the U. S. Brig Porpoise, and of the Schooners Maria and Hadassah, by order of the Hon. Mahlon Dickerson, Secretary of the Navy.—*From the Athenæum.*

Panorama and Views of Philadelphia, and its vicinity. From Paintings by J. C. Wild. With poetical illustrations by Andrew M'Makin. Philadelphia, 1838.—*From the Publisher.*

FOR THE CABINET.

An Ibis from Egypt.—*From V. L. Godon, M. D.*

Dr. Dunglison made a verbal communication on the subject of the vaccine virus and its alleged liability to lose its protective character under certain circumstances.

He stated that, in consequence of severe epidemic small-pox having recently occurred in England, from which many who had been previously vaccinated had suffered severely, it had been a matter of solicitude with many medical practitioners to revert to the original source for vaccine virus. Mr. Estlin, of Bristol, having succeeded in obtaining some lymph from a cow labouring under cow-pox, inserted it in the arm of a young lady, in August last, and from her the disease was subsequently propagated. Some of the virus, obtained at ten removes, was sent to Dr. Dunglison by Messrs. Estlin and Car-

penter, of Bristol. This has been used in several cases, and the disease produced by it appeared to him to be more satisfactory than that which results from the old virus.

Dr. Dunglison stated that there was reason to believe that a sufficient supply of the new virus would soon be obtained for distribution through the country.

Professor A. D. Bache stated to the Society that observations had been made on the night of the 12th—13th of November last, by Professor Henry, at Princeton, Professor W. B. Rogers, at the University of Virginia, and Professor R. P. Smith, at Kenyon College, Ohio, neither of whom had noted an unusual number of the meteors commonly called "shooting stars."

The Committee on the paper entitled Contributions to the Geology of the tertiary formations of Virginia, by Professor William B. Rogers, and Professor Henry D. Rogers, reported in favour of its publication, and the publication was ordered accordingly.

The resolutions presented on the 16th of November last, by Mr. Kane, relative to the distribution of the Society's Proceedings, were adopted as follows:—

That the Librarian be instructed to retain twenty copies of the Society's Proceedings, for the use of the Society; and that as soon as published he transmit one copy,

1. To each subscriber to the Transactions.
2. To each of the Societies in correspondence with this Society.
3. To each of the principal Colleges, Athenæums, and public libraries in the United States.
4. To the editors of each of the Scientific Journals in the United States, and of the principal Scientific Journals elsewhere;

That he transmit to all donors to, and correspondents of, this Society, copies of the numbers in which their donations or communications are noticed;

And that he distribute the remaining copies, at his discretion, to such members as may apply for them.